

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00  
USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01  
OMB-01 SS-15 ARA-10 NSC-05 STR-04 /118 W  
-----027617 011204Z /42

R 010907Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1018  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 5381

STATE PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MEEKER AND NOVOTNY

US OECD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, AS  
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN WHEAT SALE TO USSR

REF: CANBERRA 4866

1. AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD (AWB) INFORMED AGATTACHE OFFICE THIS MORNING IT HAD NOGOTIATED SALE WITH USSR OF 450,000 METRIC TOMS OF WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT JANUARY/NOVEMBER 1978. AWB INDICATED DEPENDING ON CLASSES OF WHEAT SHIPPED SALE COULD BE VALUED AT \$A45 MILLION FOB BASIS. AWB CONTACT INDICATED ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS CONTRACT PROVIDES FOR DIVERSION TO VIETNAM AND NORTH KOREA, AND AS QUANTITY INVOLVED IS APPROXIMATELY EQUAL TO SHIPMENTS TO THESE DESTINATION IN RECENT YEARS, IT IS ASSUMED VERY LITTLE OF CONTRACT WILL GO TO USSR FAR EAST.

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2. DIVERSION ON PART OF CURRENT CONTRACT TO CUBA CONTINUED IN RECENT WEEKS. AWB WILL SHIP 26,000 TONS OF WHAT ON RECENTLY CHARTERED VESSEL "EUROSKY" TO CUBA, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LOAD AUGUST 15/31. USSR IS APPARENTLY SEEKING SIMILAR SPACE FOR AUSTRALIA/CUBA FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SHIPMENT. AWB UNDERSTANDS PROPORTION OF LAST WEEK'S CANADIAN

SALE OF 1.7 MILLION MT WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED TO CUBA. USSR REPORTEDLY WISHED ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN SALES DELAYED UNTIL IT HAD COVERED PURCHASES UNDER US AGREEMENT, WHICH APPARENTLY TOTAL 2.9 MILLION MT WHEAT AND 3.1 MILLION MT CORN.

3. WITH THIS LATEST SALE AWB HAS NOW APPROXIMATELY 3.3 MILLION MT OF WHEAT FROM THE 1977/78 CROP COMMITTED IN ADDITION TO TOTAL CLEARANCE OF 1976/77 CROP. CONSEQUENTLY, AWB OPTIMISTIC ABOUT DISPOSAL OF NEAR RECORD 1977/78 CROP OF ABOUT 13 MILLION MT NOW IN PROSPECT, AND EXPECTS FAIRLY LOW CARRY-OVER AT END OF 1978 MARKETING YEAR.  
ALSTON

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CANBER05381  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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